

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 NSC-05 /065 W
-----160152Z 054400 /67

R 151821Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1741
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0867

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, NATO
SUBJ: PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE CSCE MEETINGS: HUMAN CONTACTS:
WARSAW PACT COUNTRY PAPERS

REF: STATE 033465

1. AT FEBRUARY 15 POLADS MEETING, THERE WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE REACTION TO IS DRAFT PAPERS ON IMPLEMENTATION BY WP COUNTRIES OF CSCE BASKET III HUMAN CONTACTS PROVISIONS. CHAIRMAN STRESSED THAT PARTICIPATION BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR EMBASSIES IN UPDATING THE QUESTIONNAIRE WAS PURELY VOLUNTARY; AND, IN ANY EVENT, THE INFORMATION IN THE FINAL REPORT DID NOT COMMIT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THE CHAIRMAN THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE EFFICIENT IF, CONFIDENTIAL

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IN EACH OF THE EAST EUROPEAN CAPITALS, ONE OF THE LARGER ALLIED EMBASSIES TOOK THE LEAD TO COORDINATE PREPARATION OF A SINGLE CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON EACH EE COUNTRY, WHICH THE COORDINATING EMBASSY WOULD FORWARD TO THE NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF.

2. POLADS REACION TO THIS LATTER SUGGESTION WAS ALSO GENERALLY FAVORABLE THOUGH FRENCH REP SAID THAT FRENCH EMBASSIES IN EE WOULD NOT ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THIS EXERCISE. TURKISH REP SAID

THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT SUCH A COLLECTIVE ALLIED EFFORT, AND MOREOVER, ANKARA IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT A "STATISTICAL APPROACH" TO CSCE IMPLEMENTATION. FINALLY, TURKISH REP EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE FINAL DOCUMENT RESULTING FROM THESE ALLIED EFFORTS NOT BE USED AT BELGRADE UNDER ANY IDENTIFYING NATO MARKINGS. SEVERAL REPS POINTED OUT THAT INDIVIDUAL ALLIES COULD BRING THIS DOCUMENT UNDER THE FORM OF A NATIONAL PAPER WHICH THEY COULD USE AS A REFERENCE WORK.

3. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION OF HAVING A SINGLE EMBASSY IN INDIVIDUAL EE CAPITALS COORDINATE WORK ON AND SUBMIT THE COUNTRY PAPERS MAKES SENSE. PENDING DEPARTMENT'S COMMENT, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH DECISIONS SHOULD BE MADE ON-THE-SPOT RATHER THAN COORDINATED HERE. IN ADDITION, IT APPEARS TO US ADVISABLE THAT THE US NOT BE SEEN AS TAKING THE LEAD IN SUCH A DIVISION OF LABOR. FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT, IN DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER IN EE CAPITALS, THE FRENCH AND TURKISH SENSITIVITIES NOTED ABOVE SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO00867
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770298/baaabbvm.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: d292b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 033465
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3472819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE CSCE MEETINGS: HUMAN CONTACTS: WARSAW PACT COUNTRY PAPERS
TAGS: CSCE, NATO
To: STATE INFO BERLIN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d292b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009